

~~NOT SUITABLE FOR MICROFILM~~

OX-395  
24 February 1955

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director (Plans)

SUBJECT: *0* American Friends of Russian Freedom (AFRF)

RESTRICTED TO *CA*

1. The American Friends of Russian Freedom (AFRF) was formed in 1951, and has been active in Europe in assisting, feeding, rehabilitating, and resettling new refugees from the USSR, including the operation of two barracks in Munich. It is also active in the United States in resettlement of Soviet refugees. The AFRF receives funds for its European activities from the United States Escapee Program (USEP), and has frequently requested additional support from the Agency, the American Committee for Liberation from Bolshevism, and from private foundations.

2. In May 1952, Mr. Dulles requested that the American Committee continue the subsidization it had been granting since June of 1951 to AFRF until the Department of State reached a decision as to the organizations through which it would distribute USEP funds (then PEP). The subsidy continued until February 1953. Additionally, in January 1953 a loan was granted to AFRF in the amount of approximately \$13,000 for the construction of a barracks, funds for which were to be received too late from USEP. It was the understanding that the loan would be repaid from USEP funds the following month; however, when the funds were received they were placed in the AFRF revolving fund for operational use. In the intervening two years, only token repayments have been made, but requests for additional funds have continued and have been refused both by the American Committee and the Agency.

3. It is our view that no further funds should be granted the AFRF by the Agency directly or through the American Committee. The AFRF is a regular recipient of USEP funds and can and should be overtly supported. It is our understanding that such welfare activities, although beneficial to our covert programs, are not to be covertly supported.

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
SOURCE METHOD EXEMPTION 3B2B  
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT

IO/5 DATE 2007

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Acting Chief  
International Organizations Division

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*IO Operational Matters*  
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